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Message Text

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21/46
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 /066 W
---------- 109738
O 061425Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3889

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1935

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 1935 VICE 1535)

OLNG SENT NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA AND COLOMBO
FROM MADRAS DTD FEB 6.

QUOTE: MADRAS 239

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IN
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN TAMIL NADU

1. GOI ABVISER P.K. DAVE FEBRUARY 5 VISITED THE SOUTHERN CITIES OF MADURAI AND TIRUCHIRAPALLI AND MET COLLECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENTS OF POLICE FROM ALL SOUTHERN DISTRICTS. IN ORDER TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH THE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICTS, WHICH WAS, HE SAID, "QUITE NORMAL AND THERE IS PEACE ALL ROUND." HE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT WHILE CORRUPT OFFICIALS WOULD BE WEEDED OUT, THERE WOULD BE NO "WITCH-HUNTING" AND NO "PSEUDONYMOUS COMPLAINTS" AGAINST OFFICIALS WOULD BE ENTERTAINED. HE SAID THE FIRST TASK WAS TO RESTORE THE IMAGE OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND SEE THAT IT CONTINUED TO FUNCTION SMOOTHLY. RED-TAPISM AND DELAY IN GRANTING COOPERATIVE AND OTHER LOANS WOULD BE AVOIDED
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AND FARM AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WOULD BE STEPPED UP. ASKED

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IF THE DMK'S POLICIES ON ISSUES SUCH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
WOULD BE REVERSED, DAVE SAID THERE WOULD BE NO "INDISCRIMINATE
REVERSAL OF POLICIES" AND "I DO NOT SEE WHY THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
POLICY SHOULD BE REVERSED IN ANY WAY." HE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON
FORMER CONGRESS CHIEF MINISTEG BHAKTAVATSALAM'S SUGGESTION FOR
AN ALL-PARTY COMMITTEE TO HELP THE ADVISERS.

2. THE PRESS REPORTS THE RESIGMATIONS FROM THE DMK OF SIX
MORE PARTY OFFICIALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS, INCLUDING TWO MEMBERS OF
THE DISSOLVED ASSEMBLY AND ONE MEMBER OF THE DMK EXECUTIVE.

3. MURASOLI, THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE DMK, CONTINUES TO PUBLISH
NAMES OF THOSE WHO COULD NOT ATTEND THE ANNA SAMADHI FEBRUARY
3, I.E., THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. THE LIST INCLUDES THE
NAMES OF TWO MEMBEGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NOT PREVIOUSLY
REPORTED. ACCORDING TO OUR FIGURES. THE NUMBER OF MLAS DETAINED
IS NOW 17 AND THE NUMBER OF MLVS DETAINED IS NOW 9.

4. ACCORDIMG TO THE INDIAN EXPRESS, PORTRAITS OF AMNADUGAI, AS
WELL AS THOSE OF KARUNANIDHI, ARE BEING REMOVED FROM OFFICES
AT THE SECRETARIAT.

5. KARUNANIDHI IS CONTINUING TO SPEAKOUT AND HOLD HIS GROUND. HE
TOLD NEWSMEN FEBRUARY 4 (THIS WAS NOT REPORTED IN THE PRESS)
AT "IF THE CENTER SAYS THAT ONLY A FEW HUNDRED DM MEN WERE
ARRESTED, WE HAVE FIGURES TO SHOW THAT THOUSANDS OF THEM WERE
TAKEN INTO CUSTODY." MURASOLI THIS MORNING CARRIES A LETTER
FROM KARUNANIDHI TO HIS FOLLOWERS, IN WHICH HE AGAIN CAUTIONS
THEM AGAINST RESORTIMG TO ACTS WHICH WOULD DISTRUB THE PEACE OR
VIOLATE LAW AMB ORDER. HOWEVER, KARUMANIDHI REMINDS HIS FOLLOWERS
THAT "ONLY IN ADVERSITY CAN YOU KNORT YOUR FRIENDS" AND SAYS
"THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN A LESSON FOR THE FUTURE."
HE ALSO REITERATED THAT HE WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION
OF INQUIRY BECAUSE "IT WOULD PROVIDE YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY
FOR US TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION."

6. THE POLICE HAVE CLOSED THE OFFICE OF "KANDEEPAM," A TAMIL
FORTNIGHTLY PUBLISHED BY S.S. MARISWAMY, MP, WHO IS NOW UNDER
ARREST.
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SAXBE

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NNN

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